

Common Ground

The Presbyterian USA Congregation
in the Colonial Heights Neighborhood
Advent In the Chapel ~ December 5, 2021

***Calm me, Lord, as you calmed the storm;
still me, Lord, keep me from harm.
Let all the tumult within me cease,
enfold me, Lord, in your peace.***



Welcome newcomer or long time friend.
We're glad you are with us today!
We invite you to share in
the ministry & celebration of our life
together in Christ
through Worship, Study, & Service.

I Will Light Candles This Christmas
by Howard Thurman

I will light candles this Christmas,
Candles of joy
despite all the sadness,
Candles of hope
where despair keeps watch,
Candles of courage
for fears ever present,
Candles of peace
for tempest-tossed days,
Candles of grace
to ease heavy burdens,
Candles of love
to inspire all my living,
Candles that will burn all year long.

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Welcome

Those at home, please mute during the songs so you can sing—this allows all participants to hear the music provided in the service. No playlist-Live music only this week.

We are following the requirements to mask (vaccinated or not) and request that those for whom this poses too great a burden join with us online.

GREETING

Rev. Linda Stewart-Kalen, PASTOR

I Will Light Candles This Christmas by Howard Thurman

PRELUDE

The Coventry Carol—Ms. Megan Cronin, MIR & Ms. Ivona Schacker, MUSIC DIRECTOR

We invite you to light a candle at the table

GATHERING IN THE LIGHT OF ADVENT

#87

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

GENEVA 42

At the Font

We Come Remembering Our Baptism in Hope

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WATERS OF LIFE

Elder Kate Belt, LITURGIST

The world may say, “You are too small.” . . . Small like an infant that gives us a glimpse of God’s love in all fullness.

In the living waters of our baptism we find we are called beloved and we are enough.

We hear them say, “You are too old.” . . . Old like Anna & Simeon who were faithful to wait, patient to see and proclaim God has come among us

In these living waters we find we are called beloved and we are enough.

Some, (perhaps even we) say, “There is not enough time . . . Christ enters this time, with this people.

The Spirit will lead us now and always, yes, even beyond the bounds of time!

Calm Me, Lord see front—sung twice

WE SEEK YOUR WHOLENESS IN OUR WAITING

God who is drawing near to us.

We live in a world of violence, which we do not condemn enough.

Come to us, with your peace.

We are filled with the best of intentions, but are unable to follow through with action.

Come to us, with your will.

Afraid to gaze into your mirror of grace, we are the broken and afraid in need of your healing.

Come to us, with your mercy.

We continue our prayer in silence.

ASSURANCE & PEACE

Word among us

have mercy.

Friend of the poor

have mercy.

Spirit of Light and Love

grant us your peace.

God’s forgiveness is abundant!

Christ’s peace is ours to share!

CELEBRATING GOD’S GRACE #126

WONDERFUL CHILD

Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child sung twice

**Jesus, Jesus, oh, what a wonderful child. Jesus, Jesus, so holy, meek, and mild;
new life, new hope the Child will bring. Listen to the angels sing,**

“Glory, glory, glory,” let the heavens ring!

Through Word and Wonder
We Are Shaped as God's Own in Love

TIME OF WONDER *Visiting the Houses of Mark & Matthew*

BLESSING #110 *Love Has Come* verse 3

BRING A TORCH

Love has come, and never will leave us! Love is life everlasting and free.

Love is Jesus within and among us. Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.

Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas. Love! Love! Praise to You, God on high!

OUR PRAYER FOR HEARING GOD'S WORD

THE STORY OF FAITH FROM THE SCRIPTURES

HEBREW SCRIPTURES Malachi 3:1-4

CANTICLE Luke 1:68-79 #109 *Blest Be the God of Israel* MERLE'S TUNE

EPISTLE Philippians 1:3-11

GOSPEL Luke 3:1-6

ADVENT REFLECTIONS TOGETHER

Rev. Linda Stewart-Kalen, PASTOR

At the Table

We Are Nourished and Given Strength in God's Peace

AN INVITATION FOR OUR OFFERING & PREPARATION FOR COMMUNION

#92 *While We Are Waiting Come*

WAITING (Cason) SM

our trust, our gifts and tithes, our prayers

Watching and waiting for the coming of Christ, we pray for the promise of a new creation, saying: Come quickly, Risen One; **our hope is in you.**

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *see insert*

INVITATION

*An open invitation to communion is practiced within Presbyterian Church (USA) congregations.
We invite all visitors and friends who trust in Jesus Christ to join us today
in being nourished at the Lord's Table.*

THANKS & PRAISE ...we lift our praises to you: **Sanctus** *from the St. Anne Mass*

REMEMBERING & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

CALLING UPON THE HOLY SPIRIT & THE PRAYER THAT JESUS TAUGHT *see back page*

SHARING THE BREAD & CUP

*We invite all to receive God's love for the world through communion or a blessing.
For those wishing to have an anointing for healing, peace, and for their journey of the week,
our Pastor will be at the baptismal font.*

In Every Place God Sends Us

We Will Live the Gospel with Joy

HYMN OF SERVICE #107 *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn* REJOICE, REJOICE

CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Sussex Carol*—Ms. Megan Cronin, MIR & Ms. Ivona Schacker, MUSIC DIRECTOR

*Many thanks to our liturgist's prayers and leading our worship, to Ivona Schacker, MUSIC DIRECTOR
and our Musicians in Residence for the ministry of music, and our online host, Kate Belt, who ensures that
the technology is a blessing, not a burden for our congregation.*

Seeing that we had no hope in ourselves of moving past what separates us, God offered us a gift in Jesus Christ who opens a door — a door we could not open ourselves. Seeing that we had no hope in ourselves of moving past what separates us, God offered us a gift in Jesus Christ who opens a door — a door we could not open ourselves. Seeing that we had no hope in ourselves of moving past what separates us, God offered us a gift in Jesus Christ who opens a door — a door we could not open ourselves.



2021 CURRENT BUILDING USE

Hawthorne Family Playschool Monday through Friday

8:00-9:00 am-set up, 12:00-1:00 pm cleanup, classroom time 9:00 am –12:00 pm

Sunday	9:00-10:00 am 10:00-11:00 am 10:15 am 10:30 am Noon	Musician Rehearsals Chapel & Sanctuary MCC Worship-Sanctuary in-person and on Facebook Welcome & Greeting for Common Ground in the Chapel Common Ground Worship in the Chapel & Zoom – see worship page for weekly details of our guest preachers and communion observations Mental Health 101 – Chapel (a light snack/lunch is available following worship for those participating) a PUN, Common Ground, & MCC partnership
Monday	11:00 am-6:30 pm 12:00 -2:00 pm 12:00-5:00 pm TBA	Meg Dixon, MIR- Voice & Piano Lessons-Chapel Office Hours Megan Cronin, MIR-Violin & Viola lessons–Friendship Room Session Meets at the home of Kate Belt December 13
Tuesday	9:00 am-12:00 pm 6:00-8:00 pm 6:45 pm	Office Hours Clarinet and Woodwind Ensemble-Sanctuary ***New Building Partners*** Monthly Reading & Reflection Book Group-Zoom Dec. 14, Jan. 18, Feb. 15 See new <u>reading list for 2021-22</u> at our website
Wednesday	11:00 am-3:00 pm 11:00 am-1:00 pm 12:00 pm Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81327678965?pwd=dURsbW9xdEZ0QVlkZ2Z2NDtFRsZmJsUT09 6:30-8:30 pm 6:30-8:30 pm 7:00-9:00 pm 7:00-10:00 pm	Possible Office Hours —can you help? Advent Quiet Space in the Sanctuary or Chapel Mid-day, Midweek Prayer —Rev. Tim Winslea, RN HFP Board Meetings (first Wednesdays): 11/3, 12/1, 1/5 Community Meetings (typically 3rd Wednesdays) 10/20, 11/17, 12/15 2nd Wednesdays MCC Board Meeting-Social Hall Logan Thane Brown, MIR- Brass groups- Sanctuary
Thursday	9:30-11:30 am 10:00-11:35 am 6:30-9:00 pm	Office Hours Weekly Tai Chi Joan Smith-Front Porch or Grounds First Thursdays PDX Vox Invitation to Sing-Chapel/Front Porch Nov. 4, Dec. 2
Friday	7:00 pm	<i>Office Closed</i> <i>MA has contacted us about the possibility resuming in the near future</i>
Saturday	10:00 -11:30 am 9:00 am-12:00 pm 1:30–6:30 pm	<i>Office Closed</i> <i>Overeaters Anonymous online at the moment in-person mtg. soon– Social Hall</i> Logan Thane Brown, MIR- Brass groups- Sanctuary Gregor McGee, MIR—Sanctuary
NEXT SUNDAY	9:00-10:00 am 10:00-11:00 am 10:15 am 10:30 am	Musician Rehearsals preparation, Chapel & Sanctuary MCC Worship-Sanctuary with in-person and on Facebook We will not be scheduling Sanctuary use without MCC coordination Welcome & Greeting for Common Ground in the Chapel Common Ground Worship in the Chapel & Zoom

or use website resources for personal at home devotions

Looking Ahead:

- ◆ Advent November 28-December 19 sign up for the PCUSA Presbyterians Today daily devotional: *Come to Bethlehem and Be Nourished*. A copy for use in our Chapel will be available, and hard copies from the church office by request.
- ◆ Monthly Conversations and skill building in *Mental Health & Illness* begin at Noon Sunday, Dec 5 (January-March 2nd Sundays at Noon. Tim Winslea & Naomi Caster are part of a design team shaping this opportunity for our Common Ground congregations and neighbors.

Christmas Bird Count Sunday, January 2, 2022 they will not be gathering in our building but we are welcome to add our Common Ground count to theirs this Sunday—see Pastor Linda if you would like to identify & count birds on the grounds of the Church that day.

Today! Join Naomi J. Caster for Mental Health 101 12 Noon-2 pm



I am a positive and energetic leader who has 20+ years of experience in the Mental Health field, most of which has been with SPMI and dually diagnosed adults, older adults, teens and youth. I have been in leadership for the last 15 years and have a strengths-based focused leadership style that encourages employees to work at their best through direct communication and accountability. My goal is to provide a recovery-focused environment in the programs that I work in where participants have opportunities to learn and grow and experience successful lives to the best of their ability. I value diversity in the workplace and strive for a dynamic and diverse team of staff to

best serve the needs of our participants and stake holders.

Are you curious to learn more about understanding and supporting mental health? All are welcome to attend "Mental Health 101" -- the first in a workshop series. This conversation and skill building opportunity is designed to equip the average non-professional with important basic mental health info. The 2-hour session will offer a brief overview of the history of mental illness and treatment in the U.S., and will cover the most common diagnoses and the resources and options available for responding. The workshop is designed and facilitated by Naomi Caster (MS, LMFT, CADC II), with more than 20 years of professional experience in the mental health field. All are welcome to attend this FREE workshop.

Our next two month's are currently planned:

January 9-Isolation & Loneliness training

February 13-QPR– a national certification for suicide prevention

We'd like your input going forward

Additional topics could be:

- Dealing with depression
- Boundaries
- Substance use recovery (this is very broad and could be broken down)
- Anxiety in the pandemic
- Conversation on Mental Health & Wellness with Youth & Children

Name: _____ optional

We Practice the Privilege of Prayer.
Jesus said, "Abide in me...Love one another."

Seeking ways for the light of Christ to be visible within
and beyond our church walls.

May our door be narrow enough to keep out hate and prejudice,
but wide enough to welcome all in God's love.



We Give Thanks for . . . The recognition by India and China about the environmental damage of coal fired energy, our hopes voiced last week for the end of: white supremacy, the ongoing nature of the pandemic, warfare between nations, economic disparity and inequity, the rest of sabbatical and the return to community, our worship life together . . .

We Seek God's protection and guidance for . . . Addressing gun violence in our area through compassionate intervention to stop cycles of violence, The US Supreme Court in their discernment of our nation's rule of law, our students finishing this fall term . . .

We Call upon God's Strength & Healing Presence for . . . Teachers, medical & other frontline workers . . .

We Ask for Hope & Assurance for Those Who Face Uncertainty . . . Those hoping to return to meaningful work, those seeking shelter and stable housing . . .

Through Us May God Comfort Those Who Grieve . . . All who mourn death of Steven Sondheim . . .

We Pray for the Church and the World . . . The newly elected government of Honduras—that promises about care of the people and addressing corruption will be fulfilled, the challenge of the new variant of COVID and the concerns for those who feel the world turns their back on them and isolates them in a time of need, the repeal of policies against farmers in India

With confidence that you hear our prayers, we offer ourselves for your good purposes, watching and waiting for the healing of your creation as we work toward your coming reign and we pray the prayer that Jesus taught:

**Our Father, who is in heaven, holy is your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

A Week of Intercessory Prayer for:

Our Church Family: Sue Clendaniel

Our Ministry & Mission: LGBTQ? Partners: MCC, Confluence, Q Center,
and supportive 12 step groups

Where did you see Jesus?

Share your story in a few words (less than 250) send to the church office by
email: office@chpcpdx.org, so we can share this good news.

